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Forty-ninth session
SIXTH COMMITTEE

ORGANIZATION OF WORK

Note by the Secretariat

1. In order to assist the Sixth Committee in the organization of its work, the Secretariat finds it appropriate, in the light of General Assembly resolutions 1898 (XVIII) of 11 November 1963 and 32/71 of 9 December 1977 and of rule 99 (b) of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, to draw the Sixth Committee's attention to the following.

I. ITEMS ALLOCATED TO THE SIXTH COMMITTEE

2. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 23 September 1994, the General Assembly decided to allocate 14 items to the Sixth Committee. The titles of these items and their numbers are reproduced in the letter dated 23 September 1994 from the President of the Assembly addressed to the Chairman of the Sixth Committee (A/C.6/49/1).

II. DOCUMENTATION RELATING TO THE ITEMS ALLOCATED TO THE SIXTH COMMITTEE

3. The following table lists the documents of the forty-ninth session of the General Assembly relating to the items allocated to the Sixth Committee. 1/ It includes references to the reports of commissions or committees and the reports that are to be submitted by the Secretary-General pursuant to resolutions or decisions of preceding sessions of the Assembly, as well as to the documents circulated under the agenda items allocated to the Sixth Committee, in accordance with requests of Member States. The items are arranged in the order in which they appear in the letter dated 23 September 1994 from the President of the Assembly to the Chairman of the Sixth Committee (A/C.6/49/1).

	Projected date of issuance
Observer status of national liberation movements recognized by the Organization of African Unity and/or by the League of Arab States (133)	
Report of the Secretary-General (A/49/325)	Issued
Status of the Protocols Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and relating to the protection of victims of armed conflicts (134)	
Report of the Secretary-General (A/49/255)	Issued
(A/49/255/Add.1).....	28 September
Consideration of effective measures to enhance the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives (135)	
Report of the Secretary-General (A/49/295)	Issued
(A/49/295/Add.1).....	30 September
Letter dated 8 July 1994 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/49/224)	Issued
United Nations Decade of International Law (136)	
Report of the Secretary-General (A/49/323)	30 September
(A/49/323/Add.1).....	30 September
Letter dated 3 May 1994 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/49/151-S/1994/537)	Issued
Report of the International Law Commission on the work of its forty-sixth session (137)	
Report of the Commission, Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 10 (A/49/10)	Issued
Note by the Secretary-General (A/49/355)	Issued

	Projected date of issuance
Report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law on the work of its twenty-seventh session (138)	
Report of the Commission, Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 17 (A/49/17 and Corr.1)	Issued
Report of the Secretary-General (A/49/427)	26 September
Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country (139)	
Report of the Committee, Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 26 (A/49/26)	November 1994
Letter dated 11 September 1994 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/49/377-S/1994/1047)	Issued
Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization (140)	
Report of the Special Committee, Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 33 (A/49/33 and Corr.1 (Spanish only))	Issued
Letter dated 29 December 1993 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the United Arab Emirates to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/49/56-S/26926)	Issued
Question of responsibility for attacks on United Nations and associated personnel and measures to ensure that those responsible for such attacks are brought to justice (141)	
Report of the Committee, Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 22 (A/49/22)	Issued
Letter dated 23 August 1994 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/49/335)	Issued

	Projected date of issuance
Measures to eliminate international terrorism (142)	
Report of the Secretary-General (A/49/257 and Corr.1 (French only))	Issued
(A/49/257/Add.1)	30 September
Letters dated 6 and 13 April and 26 July 1994 from the Permanent Mission of Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/49/118-S/1994/401; A/49/123-S/1994/427; and A/49/279)	Issued
Letter dated 6 April 1994 from the Permanent Representative of India to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/49/119)	Issued
Letter dated 22 June 1994 from the Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/49/188)	Issued
Letter dated 8 July 1994 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/49/224)	Issued
Letter dated 12 July 1994 from the Permanent Representative of Italy to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/49/228-S/1994/827)	Issued
Letters dated 27 July and 8 August 1994 from the Permanent Representative of Argentina to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/49/284-S/1994/890 and A/49/303-S/1994/951)	Issued
Letter dated 1 August 1994 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/49/293)	Issued
Letter dated 5 August 1994 from the representatives of France, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/49/299-S/1994/938)	Issued
Convention on jurisdictional immunities of States and their property (143) 2/	
No new documentation.	

Projected date of issuance

Request for an advisory opinion from the International Court of Justice (144)

No new documentation.

Review of the procedure provided for under article 11 of the statute of the Administrative Tribunal of the United Nations (145)

Report of the Secretary-General (A/49/258) ..... Issued

Question of criteria for the granting of observer status in the General Assembly (157)

Letter dated 19 September 1994 from the Permanent Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/49/231) ..... Issued

III. DATE FOR CONCLUDING THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE, ORDER AND APPROXIMATE DATES OF CONSIDERATION OF ITEMS

4. Rule 99 (b) of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly provides that:

> "Each Main Committee, taking into account the closing date for the session fixed by the General Assembly on the recommendation of the General Committee, shall adopt its own priorities and meet as may be necessary to complete the consideration of the items referred to it. It shall at the beginning of the session adopt a programme of work indicating, if possible, a target date for the conclusion of its work, the approximate dates of consideration of items and the number of meetings to be allocated to each item."

5. At its 1st meeting, on 21 September 1994, the General Committee decided to recommend that the forty-ninth session should recess not later than Tuesday, 20 December 1994, and conclude on Monday, 18 September 1995. Under the circumstances, it appears advisable that the Sixth Committee should arrange its schedule of meetings in such a way that it will conclude its work not later than Friday, 25 November 1994.

6. As regards agenda items 133 to 145, the Sixth Committee, taking into account the pattern followed in the order of consideration of items at recent sessions of the General Assembly, may wish to consider, for the purpose of adopting its programme of work, the following timetable, drawn up on the basis of previous programmes of work adopted by the Committee, which indicates approximate dates of consideration of agenda items referred to it.

Item	Approximate dates of consideration
Election of the Vice-Chairmen and Rapporteur and organization of work	26 September 1994
Report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law on the work of its twenty-seventh session	26-30 September 1994 a/
Status of the Protocols Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and relating to the protection of victims of armed conflicts	3-4 October 1994
Observer status of national liberation movements recognized by the Organization of African Unity and/or by the League of Arab States	
Consideration of effective measures to enhance the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives	
Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization	5-12 October 1994
Measures to eliminate international terrorism	13-21 October 1994
Report of the International Law Commission on the work of its forty-sixth session 3/	24 October-4 November 1994
Convention on jurisdictional immunities of States and their property	7 November 1994
Question of responsibility for attacks on United Nations and associated personnel and measures to ensure that those responsible for such attacks are brought to justice	8-10 November 1994
United Nations Decade of International Law	11-16 November 1994
Request for an advisory opinion from the International Court of Justice	17 November 1994
Review of the procedure provided for under article 11 of the statute of the Administrative Tribunal of the United Nations	18 November 1994

Item	Approximate dates of consideration
Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country	23 November 1994 b/
Reserve	25 November 1994

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a/ During the period from 26 to 30 September 1994, consultations on the item on the jurisdictional immunities of States and their property should be held in accordance with General Assembly decision 48/413 of 9 December 1993 (see para. 8 (c) below). The Sixth Committee may therefore wish to keep to a minimum the number of meetings it will hold during that period.

b/ Meetings of the States Parties to the Convention on the Law of the Sea are scheduled to take place on 21 and 22 November to discuss the establishment of the International Tribunal of the Law of the Sea.

7. As regards item 157, "Question of criteria for the granting of observer status in the General Assembly", the Sixth Committee may wish to consider it at an early stage in the session, for example, during the week of 3 to 7 October 1994, bearing in mind that the item was included in the agenda of the current session as an additional item, that is, one of an important and urgent character.

IV. ESTABLISHMENT OF WORKING GROUPS AND HOLDING OF CONSULTATIONS

8. In connection with the establishment of subcommittees or working groups and the holding of consultations for the purpose of facilitating the work, it should be borne in mind that the General Assembly took the following decisions at its forty-eighth session:

(a) As regards agenda item 136, "United Nations Decade of International Law", the General Assembly requested the Working Group on the United Nations Decade of International Law to continue to work at the forty-ninth session in accordance with its mandate and methods of work (resolution 48/30 of 9 December 1993);

(b) Concerning agenda item 141, "Question of responsibility for attacks on United Nations and associated personnel and measures to ensure that those responsible for such attacks are brought to justice", the General Assembly recommended that a working group be re-established in the framework of the Sixth Committee at its forty-ninth session in the event that further work is required for the elaboration of a draft convention (resolution 48/37 of 9 December 1993). In the light of this recommendation, the Ad Hoc Committee on the Elaboration of an International Convention Dealing with the Safety and Security of United Nations and Associated Personnel, at the end of its second session (1-12 August 1994), recommended to the General Assembly that it re-establish a

working group, which would meet for a two-week period, preferably in October or November (A/49/22, para. 29);

(c) With respect to agenda item 143, "Convention on jurisdictional immunities of States and their property", the General Assembly decided that consultations should be held in the framework of the Sixth Committee during one week at the beginning of its forty-ninth session, namely, from 26 to 30 September 1994.

9. Since the conference services to be provided for meetings of working groups and for the holding of informal consultations are those allocated to the Sixth Committee, it is important that such meetings and consultations be held in place of, rather than in addition to, meetings of the Committee.

V. DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS WITH FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

10. According to rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, "no resolution involving expenditure shall be recommended by a committee for approval by the General Assembly unless it is accompanied by an estimate of expenditures prepared by the Secretary-General". It is therefore imperative that the Main Committees allow sufficient time for the preparation of the estimates of expenditures by the Secretariat and for their consideration by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions and by the Fifth Committee. Under the circumstances, if Friday, 25 November 1994, is accepted as the concluding date for the work of the Sixth Committee (see para. 5 above), Wednesday, 9 November 1993, would have to be considered as the mandatory deadline for submission to the Fifth Committee of draft resolutions with financial implications.

VI. CONFERENCE RESOURCES AVAILABLE

11. The available conference facilities will, in principle, enable the Committee to hold an average of seven plenary meetings per week; normally, morning meetings will be held from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and afternoon meetings from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.

12. In order to avoid difficulties in the organization of services for the meetings of regional groups of the Committee, it is suggested that all requests for such meetings be channelled to the Planning and Meetings Services Section through the Secretary of the Committee.

Notes

1/ The figure in brackets after the title of each item indicates its number on the agenda of the forty-ninth session. The listing of documents has been done on the basis of communications and reports available as at 23 September 1993.

2/ For the draft articles adopted by the International Law Commission on this topic, see the report of the Commission, Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 10 (A/46/10).

3/ At its forty-eighth session, the General Assembly recommended that the debate on the report of the International Law Commission at the forty-ninth session of the General Assembly should commence on 24 October 1994 (resolution 48/31 of 9 December 1993).